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DOCTOR • WHO

THE WHISPERING GALLERY

DOCTOR · WHO

THE WHISPERING GALLERY

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Advertising Sales: (858) 270-1315 x 101
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Special thanks to Gary Russell and David Turbitt for their invaluable assistance.

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WHERE'S ALL THE MILK GONE...
POLICE BOX
...DIDN'T WE HAVE HALF A PINT LEFT?

BRILLIANT... JUST BRILLIANT...
HOW COME WE CAN TRAVEL THROUGH TIME, VISIT DISTANT GALAXIES, AND I STILL CAN'T MAKE A DECENT CUP OF TEA?

...AND WHO'D HAVE THOUGHT THAT COUPLING THE MICRO-STABILISERS TO THE QUANTUM CORTEX WOULD MEAN...
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING?

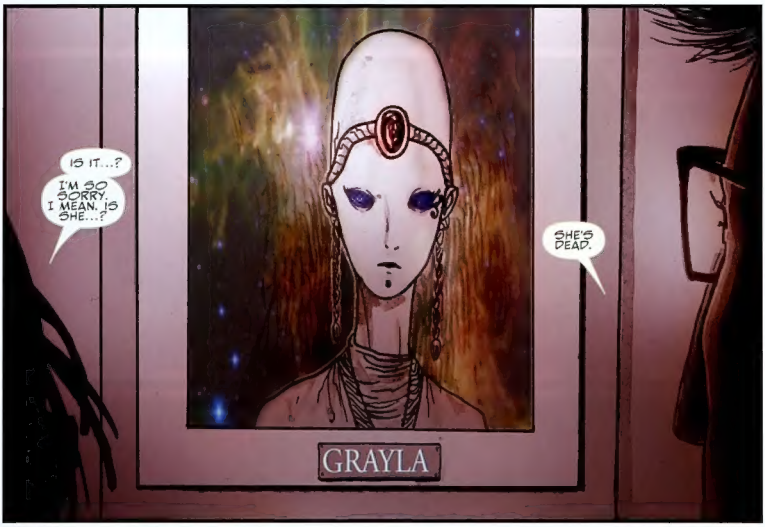
ER... YES...
YES?
YES!
UM, WHAT?

YOU WERE SAYING THAT YOU NEEDED...
THAT YOU NEEDED SOME...
SOME. UM...

MILK! MILK! YOU WANTED MILK!
JUST A PINT OF MILK, SEMI-SKIMMED, PASTEURISED. LOVELY PINT OF EARTH COW JUICE...

...AND, MARTHA JONES, MILK YOU SHALL HAVE!
VWORP! VWORP!

HERE YOU GO! MILK GALORE... AH...
NOT WHERE I THOUGHT WE WOULD...
BUT ACTUALLY, THIS MUST BE... YES, I THINK IT IS!
WHERE ARE WE? I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO A SHOP?
SHOP? NAH. NOT HERE. WELL NOT IN HERE. MAYBE OUTSIDE BUT NOT HERE... THIS IS THE WHISPERING GALLERY OF GRATT.
WHISPERING? I CAN'T HEAR ANYTHING.
THEY MUST REALLY LOVE THEIR ART...
OH, IT'S NOT ART. THEY'RE THE GRATTITES' LAST WORDS. EACH PICTURE HOLDS A COPY OF A TINY PIECE OF THE DECEASED'S CONSCIOUSNESS.
WELL, THAT'S CREEPY...
THAT'S WHY THEY WHISPER, YOU SEE...
LOST LOVE, UNFULFILLED DREAMS, AND ALL THAT.
SAD REALLY.
I ASSUME THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS ANYWAY. I HAVEN'T BEEN HERE. ONLY HEARD ABOUT IT.
I MET A GIRL FROM HERE ONCE. GRAYLA HER NAME WAS. I GAVE HER A LIFT.
SHE WAS TRAVELLING WHEN I PICKED HER UP. WANTED TO LEAVE GRATT FOREVER. SAID SHE NEEDED TO EXPRESS HERSELF.
THEY DON'T DO THAT HERE. NOT EVER. GRATTITES DREAD SHOWING ANY EMOTION AT ALL.
SOUNDS HORRIBLE. NO WONDER SHE LEFT.
GRAYLA SAID THAT NO ONE EVER SMILES OR LAUGHS OR CRIES HERE. MOST OF THEM PROBABLY CAN'T REMEMBER HOW...
THAT'S WHY THEY HAVE THE GALLERY YOU SEE. SO THEY CAN SAY THE THINGS THEY NEVER COULD WHEN THEY WERE ALIVE.
OH, BUT SHE WAS A LOVELY GIRL. YOU TWO WOULD HAVE GOT ON SO WELL.
WHERE DID YOU TAKE HER?
CAN'T REMEMBER REALLY... WAS IT... CRAB NEBULA? HORSE HEAD NEBULA?
I DUNNO. THEY ALL SEEM THE SAME AFTER A WHILE...
YEAH... MUST HAVE BEEN THE CRAB NEBULA BECAUSE—
DOCTOR. WHAT WAS HER NAME AGAIN?
THIS GIRL? DID YOU SAY GRAYLA?


IS IT...?
I'M SO SORRY. I MEAN. IS SHE...?
SHE'S DEAD.
GRAYLA

WHAT HAPPENED? TELL ME WHAT HAPPENED!

DOCTOR. THEY WERE RIGHT. THEY WERE RIGHT ALL ALONG. THIS IS NO PLACE FOR EMOTION. WHEN YOU COME YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT.
NO PLACE FOR EMOTION?

AM I SUPPOSED TO STAND HERE AND FEEL NOTHING?
DOCTOR. IT'S NORMAL NOT TO WANT PEOPLE TO BE UPSET. IT'S...

...IT WAS NICE OF HER TO LEAVE THAT MESSAGE FOR YOU.
NICE? HER FINAL MESSAGE. HER LAST WORDS TO ANYONE...

...NO. I WON'T HAVE IT.
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT HERE, MARTHA.
THAT'S NOT THE GRAYLA I MET.
SHE WOULDN'T HAVE BOTTLED ANYTHING UP.
SHE COULDN'T. THAT WAS HALF THE PROBLEM.
SHE SAID THEY'D TELL HER TO KEEP IT IN, AND SHE'D LAUGH...
BUT DOCTOR, MAYBE SHE CHANGED? PEOPLE DO.
NOT GRAYLA. NOT LIKE THAT.
I'M NOT HAVING IT.
I HAVE TO FIND OUT.
BUT HOW?
I'M GOING TO HER GRAVE. MAYBE I'LL FIND A CLUE.
WELL, WAIT FOR ME THEN...
NO.
I HAVE TO DO THIS ALONE, MARTHA. I'M SORRY.
BUT I COULD DO WITH STRETCHING MY LEGS...
YOU MUSTN'T.
IF YOU EVEN SMILED, IT'D BE LIKE YOU'D DONE THE CAN-CAN NAKED DOWN THE HIGH STREET.
FINE. I'LL STAY HERE WITH THE TARDIS THEN.
AS I HAVEN'T GOT MUCH CHOICE.
STAY HERE WITH ALL THE CREEPY PICTURES...
...WITH THEIR STORIES.
HOW DID HE GET IT TO SPEAK? DO I JUST...

WHY? **WHY** WOULD YOU COME BACK HERE TO THIS DULL LITTLE DWARF PLANET IF YOU HAD THE WHOLE **UNIVERSE** TO EXPLORE?

I SUPPOSE EVERYONE WANTS TO GO HOME IN THE END.

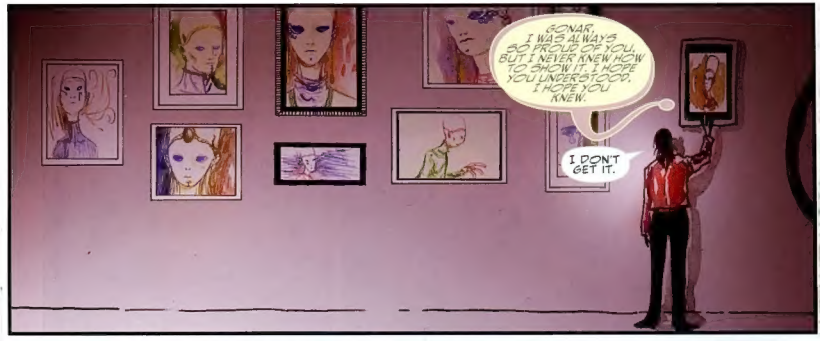
WHEN WE MET, YOU WERE SO YOUNG, SO FULL OF HOPE AND ENERGY. THAT SPARK, THE URGE FOR DISCOVERY, FOR ADVENTURE. IT WAS ALL THERE.

DID THEY **BURY** YOU, GRAYLA? DOES THE GRITT RAIN WASH OVER YOU EVEN NOW?

YOU DIDN'T KNOW WHERE YOU WERE GOING, DIDN'T CARE. YOU JUST WANTED TO TRAVEL, TO LIVE YOUR OWN LIFE.

MAYBE IF I'D ASKED YOU TO COME WITH ME INSTEAD OF JUST TAKING YOU WHERE YOU WANTED TO GO...

I DIDN'T WANT TO INTERFERE. I DIDN'T THINK YOU NEEDED IT. BUT MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE.


GONAR, I WAS ALWAYS SO PROUD OF YOU. BUT I NEVER KNEW HOW TO SHOW IT. I HOPE YOU UNDERSTOOD. I HOPE YOU KNEW.
I DON'T GET IT.

KANRIR, I ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT MY LIFE WOULD HAVE BEEN LIKE IF I'D NEVER MET YOU.
WHY NOT JUST SAY SOMETHING, OR DO SOMETHING? BEFORE IT WAS TOO LATE.

MANTO. I WAS WRONG.
I WISH I HAD DONE MORE FOR OTHERS.
I ALWAYS LOVED YOU, HANAAN. I'M SORRY I NEVER TOLD YOU.
I HOPE SOMEONE REMEMBERS ME.

MAYBE... MAYBE THEY'RE NOT SO DIFFERENT FROM HUMANS...

EXCUSE ME...? EXCUSE ME!
IS THIS WHERE YOU...
...THIS IS A PLACE FOR THE DEAD, ISN'T IT?
I'M LOOKING FOR GRAYLA.

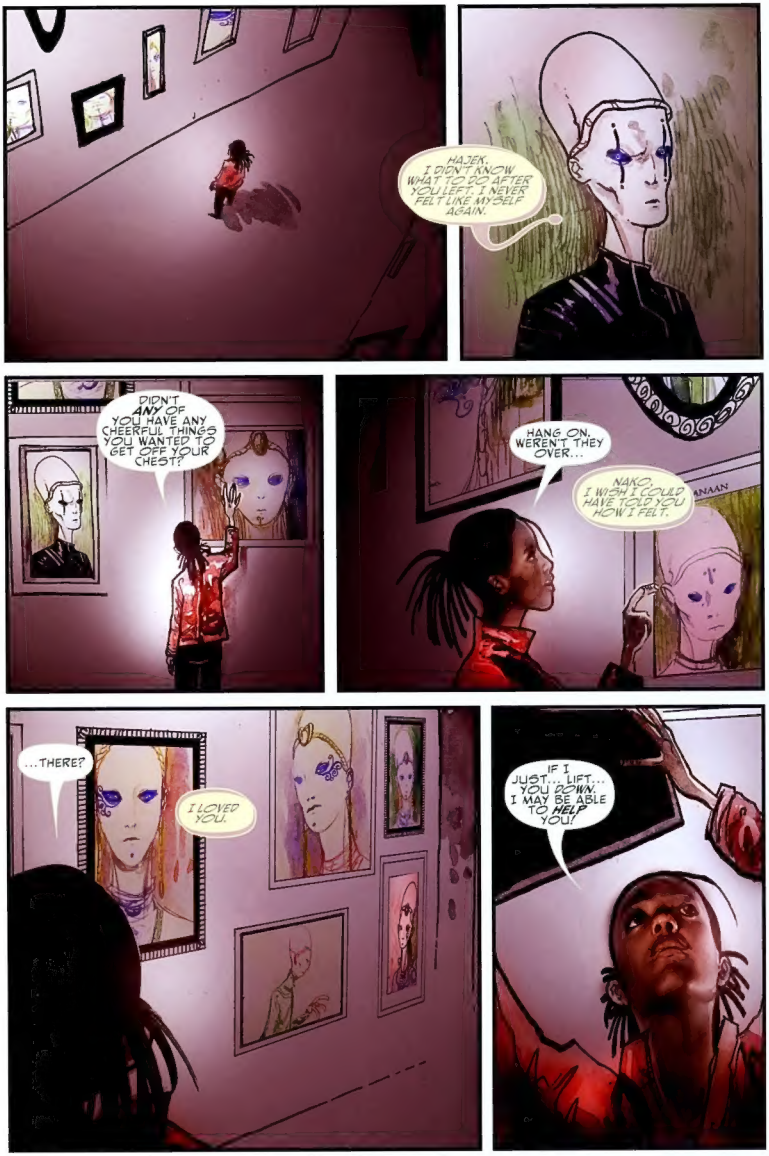
GRAYLA?
OVER THERE; YOU'LL FIND THE NAME.

THIS IS IT? ALL THAT IS LEFT NOW OF THAT BRIGHT, FUNNY GIRL?
JUST A STONE. A BLANK, FACELESS STONE.

I COULD HAVE ASKED YOU TO STAY WITH ME, TO TRAVEL. JUST FOR A WHILE.
MAYBE IF I'D SHOWN YOU MORE, TAKEN YOU SOMEWHERE ELSE. ANOTHER TIME. ANOTHER PLACE...

I THOUGHT I SENSED IT. I THOUGHT YOU'D BE OKAY. GRAYLA, I SWEAR I DID.

I'M SORRY.

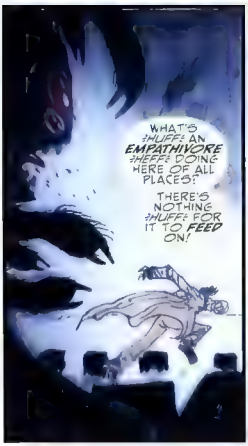

HAJEK. I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO AFTER YOU LEFT. I NEVER FELT LIKE MYSELF AGAIN.
DIDN'T ANY OF YOU HAVE ANY CHEERFUL THINGS YOU WANTED TO GET OFF YOUR CHEST?
HANG ON. WEREN'T THEY OVER...
NAKO. I WISH I COULD HAVE TOLD YOU HOW I FELT.
...THERE?
I LOVED YOU.
IF I JUST... LIFT... YOU DOWN. I MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU!

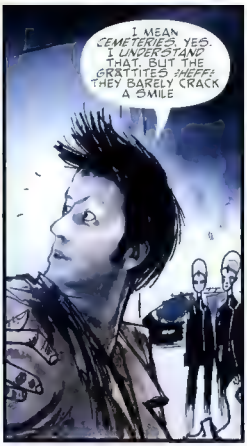
TERMINATOR
THE SARAH CONNOR CHRONICLES
NEW NIGHT
FRI FEB 13 8/7c

She can be anyone, except herself.
dollhouse
NEW SERIES
9/8c FOX

I'M SORRY, DID YOU SAY SOMETH
OH!

THAT REALLY WASN'T WHAT I WAS EXPECTING!


WHAT'S ZHUFF: AN EMPATHIVORE ZHEFF: DOING HERE OF ALL PLACES?
THERE'S NOTHING ZHUFF: FOR IT TO FEED ON!


I MEAN CEMETERIES, YES. I UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT THE GRATTITES ZHEFF: THEY BARELY CRACK A SMILE

WELL? AREN'T YOU GOING TO SAY ANYTHING?
NAKO, I THINK HANAAN HAS SOMETHING TO TELL YOU!
AT LEAST YOU'RE TOGETHER NOW.
MAYBE, SOMEHOW, THAT LITTLE PART OF YOU THAT'S LEFT WILL KNOW.. ?

OFFICERS! YOU ARE OFFICERS, AREN'T YOU? THE UNIFORMS GIVE IT AWAY.
ANYWAY. GOOD JOB YOU'RE HERE. THERE'S A BIG BLACK THING LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF EMPATHIVORE.
SIR PLEASE CALM DOWN
YOU ARE UNDER ARREST SIR
WELL, YES, THAT'S PRETTY MUCH ALL DUE TO THE LARGE CREATURE I MENTIONED...
SPEAKING OF WHICH, SHOULDN'T YOU BE SHOOTING IT OFF OR ARRESTING IT OR WHATEVER?
THEY GENERATE A FIELD OF DESPAIR AROUND THEM. YOU KNOW.
OF COURSE YOU KNOW..
...YOU CAN'T HAVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT RUNNING AROUND WITHOUT KNOWING
SIR PLEASE JUST KEEP YOUR LOCKE DOWN
COME WITH US AN WE'LL BOOK YOUR CRA
WHAT ARE YOU...?
OH

...RIGHT, IT'S GROWING.

THAT'S NOT GOOD.

IT'S THE FEAR, ISN'T IT?

THIS BUGGY CAN GENERATE AN EMOTION SUPPER OR SOMETHING THEN. CAN IT?

THEN YOU CAN ISOLATE THE CREATURE WITH A BEAM OR A SHIELD OR SOMETHING AND SHRINK IT BACK INTO EMPATHOBIOSIS

DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE ALSO ABOUT, WE'RE ALL SCARED AND THAT'S LIKE THAT.

WE'RE DRIVE.

BUT HOW DO YOU DEAL WITH THEM NORMALLY? IS THERE A SPECIAL TEAM OR SOMETHING?

BUT WE'RE SO FAR OUTSIDE THE CRAFT. PLEASE, YOUR MOTIONS.

WHERE THE HELL ARE WE HEAD?

CRAFT? YOU MEAN THE TARDIS?

IT'S IN THE WHISPERING GALLERY

...HANG ON DID YOU SAY DEPORTED?

THIS IS HORRIBLE. ALL THESE VOICES. ALL THESE REGRETS. IT'S SO STUPID. WHY DIDN'T THEY JUST SAY IT?

WHY COULDN'T THEY LET THE WORLD KNOW HOW THEY FELT INSTEAD OF BOTTLING IT UP UNTIL THEY WERE GONE?

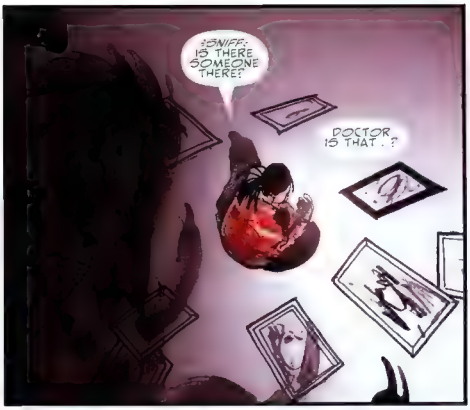
UNTIL IT WAS TOO LATE.

THESE PICTURES CAN'T FEEL. THEY CAN'T HEAR OR SEE.

EVEN WHEN THEIR UNREQUITED LOVE FINALLY ANSWERS THEM, THEY CAN'T UNDERSTAND. SO WHAT'S THE POINT?

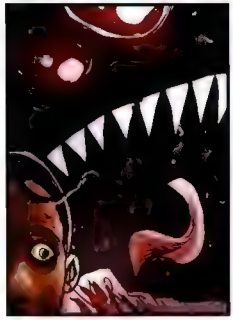
THE MORKON HOW FAR BEHIND US IS
WELL, WELL, WELL. I THINK WE'RE IN LUCK?
THE— WHAT DID YOU CALL IT? MORKON?
GOOD NAME! WELL, IT APPEARS TO HAVE GONE.
THE EMPATHIVORE SQUAD OR WHATEVER... ROBOTS, ARE THEY?
AH YES! NO EMOTIONS! CLEVER! THEY MUST'VE GOT IT!
NO, THERE IS NO ANYTHING WE'RE POWERLESS AGAINST THE MORKON.
AND THEN SHE CAME BACK. THE GRAYLA-THEY AREN'T SUPPOSED TO RAVE.
WAIT. THIS GIRL WAS HER NAME GRAYLA?
DID SHE EVER MENTION ME?
DID SHE MENTION THE DOCTOR?
YOU'RE THE DOCTOR?
YOU CAUSED THE FIRST WAS REALLY SO YOU'RE THE MORKON AWOKE?

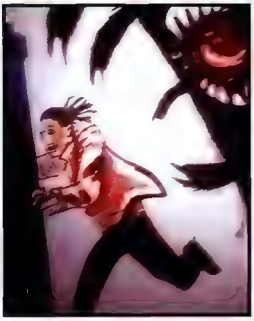
WHEN THE GIRL RETURNED SHE WAS DIFFERENT. SHE HAD EVOLVED IN HER WAYS AND SHE WANTED TO CHANGE THE WORLD FOR THE GALAXY.
SOME TOLD OTHERS. MOST REGARDED MISSY HAD DEVELOPED SEED OF HOPE THEIR EMOTIONS. SHE TOLD THEM THE DOCTOR HAD SAID SHE WAS FREE.
SOON HER IDEAS SPREAD. MANY GRATEFUL BELIEVED THAT THE MORRICON WAS GONE. SOME MEN, OUR ANCESTORS, INVENTED TO FRIGHTEN CHILDREN. THEIR FEAR WAS GONE.
SOME OF THEM WENT TO THE WHISPERING GALLERY TO HEAR THE PORTRAITS. SHE TOLD THEM THAT DARKNESS WAS AS IMPORTANT AS HAPPINESS.
THEIR GRIEF AWAKENED THE MORRICON, AND ITS HUNGER FOR MISERY WAS GREATER THAN EVER.
MOST OF ALL IT WANTED HER. THE GIRL. SOULS HER OUT AND ALTERED EVERYONE'S PATH.
SOME SOLDIERS HELD HER FEELINGS. SHE WAS THE WORLD'S FAIRE TRADE.
SHE WAS TRANQUILIZED. THEY KEPT HER NUMB UNTIL.
UNTIL THE GALLERY MADE HER A PORTRAIT.
ALL THAT EMOTION. ALL THAT SPIRIT MUST HAVE MADE HER LIKE A BEACON.
MARTHA!
MARTHA'S IN THE GALLERY!
SCREWDRIVER. WHERE'S THE SCREWDRIVER?

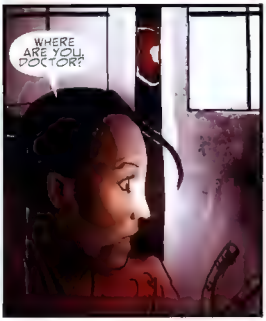

:SNIFF: IS THERE SOMEONE THERE?
DOCTOR IS THAT..?

...WHAT- WHAT ARE YOU? WHAT DO YOU WANT?
STAY BACK JUST STAY AWAY!

DOCTOR! DOCTOR!






WHERE ARE YOU, DOCTOR?

WHY DID HE LEAVE ME HERE ALONE?

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE I AM. WHAT AM I DOING HERE?

I DON'T WANT TO DIE HERE. A MILLION MILES AWAY FROM EARTH. FROM HOME.

POLICE BOX

HOLD ON, MARTHA JONES! HOLD ON!
BRRUMM

THERE IT IS!
SOUND YOUR HORN. ATTRACT ITS ATTENTION!
ATTRACT ITS ATTENTION?

ALRIGHT. I'LL DO IT!
HONK HONK
HONK
SCREE
OI! OI! OVER HERE! DOWN HERE!
LEAVE HER ALONE!

YES, I KNOW YOU'VE GOT A TERRIFIED HUMAN IN THERE, AND THAT MUST BE LOVELY FOR YOU, BUT ME...
...WELL, I'M A TIME LORD. I'M NINE HUNDRED AND THREE YEARS OLD. JUST IMAGINE THE EMOTIONS I'VE GOT. THE THINGS I'VE FELT.
IMAGINE THE FEAST OF MISERY YOU COULD LEECH OUT OF ME.

ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS COME AND GET ME!

KLANG
WHAT'S HAPPENING?

POLICE BOX
DOCTOR?

NO DOCTOR! RUN!
IT'S OKAY, MARTHA I PROMISE. JUST STAY IN THE TARDIS

BLIMEY, THIS IS DEPRESSING. WHERE SHALL WE START THEN?
WELL, I'M FROM THE PLANET GALLIFREY, THE CONSTELLATION KASTERBOROUS. ONLY IT'S NOT THERE ANY MORE

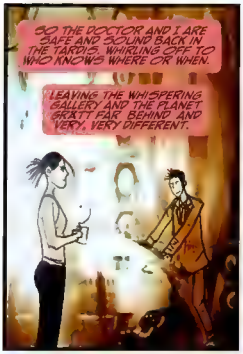
VRRUMM

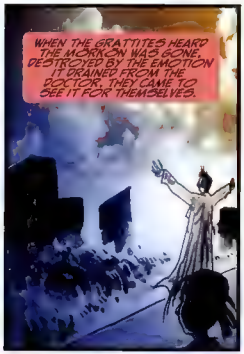
DOCTOR?!

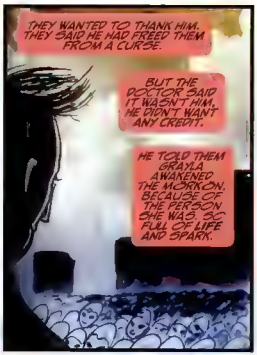
KABLOOOM

PLIP

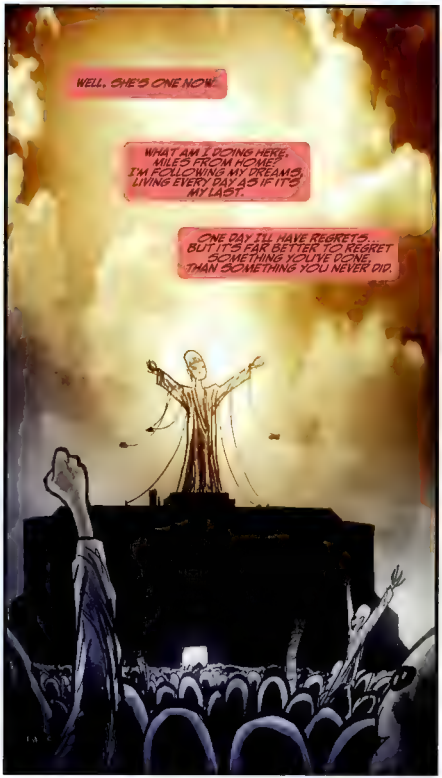
POOH! BIT MESSY THAT. SORRY


SO THE DOCTOR AND I ARE SAFE AND SOUND BACK IN THE TARDIS, WHIRLING OFF TO WHO KNOWS WHERE OR WHEN.
LEAVING THE WHISPERING GALLERY AND THE PLANET GRATT FAR BEHIND AND VERY, VERY DIFFERENT.


WHEN THE GRATTITES HEARD THE MORKON WAS GONE, DESTROYED BY THE EMOTION IT GAINED FROM THE DOCTOR, THEY CAME TO SEE IT FOR THEMSELVES.


THEY WANTED TO THANK HIM. THEY SAID HE HAD FREED THEM FROM A CURSE.
BUT THE DOCTOR SAID IT WASN'T HIM. HE DIDN'T WANT ANY CREDIT.
HE TOLD THEM GRAYLA AWAKENED THE MORKON, BECAUSE OF THE PERSON SHE WAS SO FULL OF LIFE AND SPARK.

IF THE MORKON HAD CAUGHT HER BEFORE THE SEDATIVES, IT WOULD HAVE PERISHED RIGHT THEN, OVERPOWERED BY GRAYLA'S EMOTIONS.
SO NEARLY A HERO.


WELL, SHE'S ONE NOW.
WHAT AM I DOING HERE, MILES FROM HOME? I'M FOLLOWING MY DREAMS, LIVING EVERY DAY AS IF IT'S MY LAST.
ONE DAY I'LL HAVE REGRETS, BUT IT'S FAR BETTER TO REGRET SOMETHING YOU'VE DONE, THAN SOMETHING YOU NEVER DID.

THE · END

BEN TEMPLESMITH

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PRISON.

TEMPLESMITH.

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FULL COLOR • 132 PAGES • $19.99 • ISBN: 978-1-60010-374-2

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FEBRUARY 2009

IS IT TRUE? AN ACTUAL SUPERHERO TITLE FROM IDW THIS MARCH?

YES, BUT WRITER J.M. DEMATTEIS' *SAVIOR 28* IS A HERO LIKE NO OTHER.

The Life and Times of Savior 28 debuts next month from IDW, and it is something of a departure for us: an actual superhero book… and you know if we're going down that road it's going to be a damn good one. We sat down with Eisner Award-winning writer J.M. DeMatteis to chat, and he filled us in on what we can expect.

FEBRUARY RELEASES FROM IDW PUBLISHING

COMICS

30 Days of Night: 30 Days 'til Death #3
Angel: Smile Time #2
Angel #17
Angel #18
Doctor Who: The Whispering Gallery
Doctor Who Classics: Series 2 #3
The Dreamer #4
Ghost Whisperer: The Muse #3
GI Joe #2
GI Joe Origins #1
Locke & Key: Head Games #2
Sir Apropos of Nothing #4
Speed Racer: The Next Generation: Birthright #4
Star Trek: Countdown #2
Star Trek TNG: The Last Generation #4
Terminator Salvation Movie Prequel #2
The Transformers: All Hail Megatron #8
Transformers Best of the UK City of Fear #1
Transformers: Maximum Dinobots #3
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen Movie Prequel: Alliance #3
Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen Movie Prequel: Defiance #2
Whatmen

GRAPHIC NOVELS • ART BOOKS • SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

30 Days of Night: Juarez TPB
Nailed HC
Ashley Wood's Art of Metal Gear Solid TPB
Danger Unlimited TPB
Gravestinger TPB
Next Men Premiere Edition Vol. 1 HC
Oliver Twist TPB
Tomorrow Jim Mahfood HC
Spike: After the Fall HC
Star Trek: Mirror Images TPB
Tilting at Windmills, Vol. 2
Transmyrat: Art of Ben Templesmith 2nd printing
Transformers All Hail Megatron Vol. 1 TPB
Transformers: Revelation TPB
Transformers War Within Omnibus
Welcome to Hoxford TPB
Wormwood Vol. 1 HC

WORTHWHILE BOOKS

Cameron and His Dinosaurs
Carl the Frog
Seamus McNamus

Tilting at Windmills, Vol. 2 TPB

Transformers: Revelation TPB

Wormwood, Vol. 1 HC

Whatmen

Comments, questions, suggestions, complaints, praise — we want to hear from you! You can e-mail any correspondence to letters@idwpublishing.com or IDWords, 5080 Santa Fe Street, San Diego, CA 92109. You can also join in the conversation on our message boards at idwpublishing.com.

IDW: J.M., you and artist Mike Cavallaro are collaborating on a new book for IDW called The Life And Times Of Savior 28 *Could you tell us a little about it?*

J.M. DeMatteis: The story, at its core, has to do with violence in superhero comics, in pop culture in general, and, ultimately, in our world. Despite my deep love of the genre, I've always had a problem with the violent content in superhero comics; the mindset that, however much we struggle to disguise it, says "All problems are ultimately solved by dropping a building on a so-called bad guy's head." It's a dangerous concept, especially in a world where too many of our political leaders seem to have the same black-and-white vision. "Hey, those guys over there are 'evildoers,' so let's bomb the hell out of them because we're the 'good guys' fighting for truth and freedom." *Savior 28* grew out of my desire to craft a story that would face this issue head-on. As I continued to develop the idea, it grew into a saga that spanned seventy years of American pop culture and politics.

IDW: IDW isn't exactly known for doing superhero comics you can count the ones we've done on one hand But this isn't exactly a traditional superhero comic, is it?

JMD: Strange as it sounds, *Savior 28* is both a tribute to the genre and a condemnation of it. It's rooted in tradition... and completely explodes the tradition at the same time.

IDW You've done wonderful runs on some classic books. Your Spider-Man/Kraven storyline with Mike Zeck springs to mind as an iconic character thrust into a defining moment in his career. Would you describe The Life and Times of Savior 28 *as facing such a crossroads?*

JMD : Absolutely. Our main character, Savior 28, is a hero from the Golden Age, the same era that gave us the original versions of Superman, Batman, Wonder Woman, and Captain America. We follow his evolution through the decades—reaching the crisis point where a series of traumatic events conspire to push S-28 over the edge: He finally sees that the way he's been doing things all these years isn't just wrong, it's insane. He realizes he has to find a new way to live, to work for change in the world. Problem is—after seven decades of solving problems with his fists—he has no clue what that way is. And when he finally does find the way, he discovers that most of the world isn't ready to go along with him.

IDW: This has been called your final word on superhero comics; is it?

JMD: It's not *the* final word: it's *a* final word. I clearly think it's important to address the negatives of the genre. I've been stewing about this stuff for decades and I just have to get it out. At the same time, there are many positive things about the superhero archetype—in fact, I'm developing another project that explores the uplifting and deeply spiritual ideas I believe are at the core of the superhero myth. So writing *The Life and Times of Savior 28*, however cathartic, doesn't mean I'm done with superheroes. It's not necessarily my first choice of genres—but I think there are still some stories for me to tell.

IDW: Aside from superheroes, you've written a variety of other types of stories. Moonshadow, *painted by Jon J Muth, and* Abadazad, *drawn by Mike Ploog are particular favorites of mine. Is there any hope of IDW readers seeing something else written by you down the road, in any genre?*

The Life and Times of Savior 28 #1 cover by Mike Cavallaro

JMD : As noted, one of the things I've loved about working in comics is that I've been able to do everything: superheroes, kids' fantasy, adult fantasy, autobiography, comedy. I've never limited myself to one type of story. Having the freedom to jump from *Spider-Man* to *Brooklyn Dreams*, *Hero Squared* to *Stardust Kid* is what's allowed me to keep going in this business. If I'd only been writing superheroes all these years, I think my head would have exploded years ago!

As for the future: I have an idea for a new all-ages fantasy that I'm starting to develop. As readers of *Abadazad* and *Stardust Kid* know, doing smart, literate, beautifully illustrated comics for young readers—and their parents!—has been a crusade of mine for years now... and I think this new project would be right up IDW's creative alley. Right now I'm incredibly busy—aside from my comic-book work, I'm writing a novel and working on some television projects—but once my schedule opens up... well, we'll see what the future holds.

IDW: Thanks for stopping by, J.M

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